

Inspectors General Applaud President Joe Biden's Recognition of the Critical Work of Government Watchdogs

"The watchdogs are back," President Joseph R. Biden declared during his State of the Union address on February 7, detailing the critical work inspectors general have done to root out massive fraud that went unchecked during the pandemic.

We the undersigned, commend President Joseph R. Biden for his recognition of the integral nature of our mission to safeguard public benefits and entities from misconduct, abuse and corruption. Further, we know from firsthand experience that this is not only a lynchpin to the foundation of a functioning democracy, but also a creed that transcends party affiliation and political consideration.

The work of a robust watchdog agency is sacrosanct in that it not only defends the interests of the people but maintains and increasingly strives to restore faith in government itself. We hope the president's comments will serve as a reminder to the public and the organizations we monitor that there is someone watching. The watchdogs are indeed back, and we aren't going away.

Lucy Lang

New York State Inspector General

Max Huntsman

County of Los Angeles Inspector General

Melissa R. Santistevan

City of Albuquerque Inspector General

Sherrill Spatz

NYS Unified Court System Inspector General

Bernadette Kakooza

Detroit Public Schools Inspector General

David Cook

Indiana Inspector General

Shannon K. Manigault

City of Atlanta Inspector General

Isabel Mercedes Cumming

Baltimore City Inspector General

Denise S. Wolf

Southeastern Pennsylvania
Transportation Authority Inspector General

Jayme Naberezny

School District of Philadelphia

Inspector General